

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00397 121156Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COA-01 AGR-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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USDOC FOR SCHONING,BLONDIN, MILLER IN
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EFIS, DA

SUBJECT: EC MINIMUM PRICE SCHEME INVOKED FOR DANISH
COD LANDINGS.

1. DURING THE LAST WEEK OR SO, IMPORTANT QUANTITIES OF
COD LANDED BY DANISH FISHERMEN IN DANISH PORTS HAVE
FAILED TO OBTAIN THE MINIMUM PRICE SET BY THE EUROPEAN
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY(EC) AND HAVE HAD TO BE TAKEN OFF
THE MARKET AND SOLD FOR REDUCTION TO MEAL AND OIL.
NORMALLY SUCH FISH WOULD BE USED FOR PROCESSING AS FRESH
FILLETS OR FROZEN FILLETS AND BLOCKS. A MAJOR SHARE OF
DANISH EXPORTS OF FROZEN COD BLOCKS IS EXPORTED TO THE
UNITED STATES.

2. UNDER THE MINIMUM PRICE SCHEME AGREED UPON FOR 1975
THE MINIMUM PRICE FOR COD OF THE FIRST THREE SIZE
CATEGORIES AND QUALITIES GRADES EXTRA A ANB B LANDED IN
DENMARK IS TWO AND THIRTY-FOUR HUNDREDS KRONER PER KILO
GRAM, ROUGHLY ABOUT NINETEEN US CENTS PER POUND, IN
DENMARK THIS IS FOR GUTTED FISH. MINIMUM PRICES ARE
LOWER FOR SMALLER AND LESSER QUALITY FISH.

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PAGE 02 COPENH 00397 121156Z

3. COD, LANDED BY MEMBERS OF THE DANISH PRODUCERS ORGANIZA-

TIONS (PO) IS TAKEN OFF THE MARKET IF THE KQION PRICE IS LESS THAN THE MINIMUM PRICE. IN ADDITION THE COD IS NOT PERMITTED TO BE EXPORTED AS FRESH OR FROZEN FISH BECAUSE SUCH EXPORTS WOULD DISTURB NORMAL MARKET ACCORDING TO THE AUTHORITIES. HENCE THE HIGH QUALITY COD MUST BE SOLD FOR REDUCTION.

4. ONLY PO MEMBERS ARE GUARANTEED THE MINIMUM PRICE FOR FISH WHICH THEY LAND. PROBABLY AROUND TWO THIRDS OF THE FISHERMEN BELONG TO THE PO. FISH LANDED BY NON PO FISHERMEN MAY BE SOLD AT LESS THAN THE MINIMUM PRICE.

5. THE SLUGGISH EXPORT MARKET IN THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE PLUS UNEXPECTED HEAVY LANDINGS ARE BLAMED FOR THE LOW PRICES. THE INDUSTRY REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT THE SITUATION IS TEMPORARY AND EXPECTS THAT PRICES WILL FIRM AND THE NEED TO SELL HIGH QUALITY COD FOR REDUCTION WILL NOT LAST LONG.
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